

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor, I declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; that I believe I am an original, first and joint inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention or design entitled: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR PROVIDING FUTURES CONTRACTS IN A FINANCIAL MARKET ENVIRONMENT, the specification of which is attached hereto;

That I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above; and

That I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

I hereby claim U.S. provisional application or foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. § 119 of any U.S. provisional applications or any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior U.S. Provisional or Foreign Application(s)			
			Priority Claimed
Number	Country	Day/Month/Year Filed	Yes No
N/A			

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application(s) in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application(s) and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

Application Serial Number

Date Filed

Status

-----NONE-----

I hereby appoint:

Practitioners at Customer Number **05073**

all of the firm of Baker Botts L.L.P., my attorneys with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith, and to file and prosecute any international patent applications filed thereon before any international authorities.

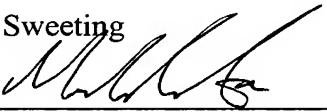
Send Correspondence To:

Baker Botts L.L.P.
2001 Ross Avenue, Suite 600
Dallas, Texas 75201-2980

Direct Telephone Calls To:

Samir A. Bhavsar, Esq.
at 214.953.6581

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Full Name of Inventor:	Michael (nmi) Sweeting
Inventor's Signature:	
Date:	12 th OCTOBER 2003
Residence (City, Country):	England, United Kingdom
Citizenship:	British
Post Office Address:	Innes House 10 Ayling Lane, Aldershot, Hampshire, GU11 3LZ United Kingdom